

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PU030295	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/US2004/037349	International filing date (day/month/year) 09.11.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 10.11.2003
<p>International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04N5/76, H04N5/775, H04N5/445, H04N5/00</p>		
<p>Applicant THOMSON LICENSING S.A. et al</p>		
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 1/4-4/4 sheets, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)), containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>		
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application 		
Date of submission of the demand 26.05.2005	Date of completion of this report 20.10.2005	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Lauri, L Telephone No. +49 89 2399-7304	



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/US2004/037349

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

Description, Pages

1-22 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-16 filed with the demand

Drawings, Sheets

1/4-4/4 as originally filed

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

- The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
- This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/US2004/037349

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	4,5,8,10,11,13,14,15
	No:	Claims	1-3,6,7,9,12,16
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	4,5,8,10,11,13,14,15
	No:	Claims	1-3,6,7,9,12,16
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-16
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.
PCT/US2004/037349

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US 2003/037335 A1 (GATTO JEAN-MARIE ET AL) 20 February 2003 (2003-02-20)
D2: WO 02/32140 A (UNITED VIDEO PROPERTIES, INC) 18 April 2002 (2002-04-18)

The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

The document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document): A method for operating a television apparatus having a plurality of devices coupled thereto via a digital serial bus (Fig. 1), the method comprising: receiving user selection of a first one of the plurality of devices as a designated video input source device (paragraphs 13 and 14) and a second one of the plurality of devices as a designated sink device (paragraph 8); and transmitting commands to the designated video input source device and the designated sink device (paragraph 7) to establish a peer to peer connection between the designated video input source device and the designated sink device (paragraph 46: an IEEE 1394 bus is well known as a peer-to-peer interface), whereby data may be directly transferred between the designated video input device and the designated sink device (abstract).

Claim 13 includes all the features of claim 1, except that the connection occurs through an IEEE 1394 bus, which feature is anyway mentioned in D1 at paragraph 46. Therefore claim 13 too lacks novelty.

The above objection also applies to claim 7 which concerns the apparatus performing the method of claim 1.

Dependent claims 2, 3, 6, 9, 12, 16 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and/or inventive step, see documents D1 and D2 and the corresponding passages cited in the search report.

The combination of the features of dependent claims 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious by, the available prior art.

CLAIMS

1. A method for operating a television apparatus having a plurality of devices coupled thereto via a digital serial bus, the method comprising:
 - 5 receiving user selection of a first one of the plurality of devices as a designated video input source device and a second one of the plurality of devices as a designated sink device; andtransmitting commands to the designated video input source device and the designated sink device to establish a peer to peer connection
 - 10 between the designated video input source device and the designated sink device, whereby data may be directly transferred between the designated video input device and the designated sink device.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the designated sink device is a digital recording device, and the transmitting step comprises causing the digital recording device to record digital content from the designated video input source device in response to the user selection.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the digital serial bus comprises an IEEE 1394 compliant bus.
- 20 4. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
 - causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the tuning device as the designated input source device.
- 25 5. The method of claim 2, wherein the causing step comprises causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the tuning device as the designated input source device into a predefined buffer size of a storage medium of the digital recording device.

6. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of displaying video content stored on the digital recording device on the television apparatus in response to user selection of the digital recording device as the designated video signal source device.

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7. A television apparatus having a plurality of devices coupled thereto via a digital serial bus, comprising:

means for receiving user selection of a first one of the plurality of devices as a designated video input source device and a second one of the plurality of devices as a designated sink device connected to the television apparatus; and

means for generating and transmitting commands to the designated video input source device and the designated sink device to establish a peer to peer connection between the designated video input source device and the designated sink device, whereby data may be directly transferred between the designated video input source device and the designated sink device.

8. The television apparatus of claim 7, wherein the designated sink device is a digital recording device and the commands cause the digital recording device to continuously record the digital content from the designated video input source device in response to the user selection.

9. The television apparatus of claim 8, wherein the digital serial bus comprises an IEEE 1394 compliant bus.

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10. The television apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

means for causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the tuning device as the designated input source device.

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11. The television apparatus of claim 8, wherein the means for causing comprises means for causing the digital recording device to continuously

record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the tuning device as the designated input source device into a predefined buffer size of a storage medium of the digital recording device.

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12. The television apparatus of claim 8, further comprising means for displaying video content stored on the digital recording device on the television apparatus in response to user selection of the digital recording device as the designated video signal source device.

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13. A method for operating a television apparatus connected to an IEEE 1394 compliant bus port, the method comprising:

receiving user selection of a designated digital video input source device connected to the television apparatus via the IEEE compliant bus; and

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causing an IEEE 1394 compliant recording device connected to the television apparatus via the IEEE 1394 compliant bus to establish a peer to peer connection with the designated digital video input source device and to continuously record the digital content from the designated digital video input source device without further processing of the data by the television apparatus.

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14. The method of claim 13, further comprising:

25 causing the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device to continuously record video content from a digital tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the digital tuning device as the designated digital input source device.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the causing step comprises causing the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device to continuously record digital video content from a digital tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the digital tuning device as the designated digital input

source device into a predefined buffer size of a storage medium of the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device.

16. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of displaying video content stored on the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device on the television apparatus in response to user selection of the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device as the designated digital video signal source device.

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